

**WARRANT**  
**FOR THE**  
**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**TOWN OF FREETOWN**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**MONDAY, JUNE 04, 2018 - 7:30 P.M.**

**AUDITORIUM**  
**FREETOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**43 BULLOCK ROAD**  
**EAST FREETOWN, MASSACHUSETTS**

**BRISTOL, SS:**

**To either of the Constables of the Town of Freetown, GREETING:**

**In the name of the Commonwealth you are hereby requested to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Freetown who are qualified to vote in the Elections and Town Affairs to meet in the Freetown Elementary School, Auditorium, 43 Bullock Road, East Freetown, Massachusetts, on Monday, the Fourth day of June, 2018, at 7:30 P.M., then and there to act on the following Articles, viz:**

**ARTICLE 1:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the Town charges for the Fiscal Year 2019, viz: General Government, Public Safety, Health & Human Services, Public Works, Education, Culture Recreation, Interest and Principal Debt, Town Wide Fueling, and Unclassified: SRPEDD Assessment, Retirement, Insurances, Medicare and Transfers, Capital Equipment, Capital Building & Other Property Improvements, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation:*** *This Article serves as the introductory Article for presentation of the Omnibus Budget.*

**ARTICLE 2:** To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town as provided by Chapter 41, Section 108 of the General Laws, as amended, for the Fiscal Year 2019, and/or take any action relative thereto.

FIGURES INDICATE ANNUAL SALARIES OR HOURLY PAYRATES.

	VOTED	SELECTMEN	FINANCE	
	<u>FY 2018</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>
			<u>FY2019</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>
Moderator	\$ 420.00	\$432.00		\$432.00
Board of Selectmen (each)	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00		\$6,000.00
Town Clerk	\$55,000.00	\$56,100.00		\$56,100.00
Board of Assessors (each)	\$4,192.00	\$4,192.00		\$4,192.00
Tree Warden	\$21.48	\$21.48		\$21.48
Highway Surveyor	\$67,830.00	\$69,186.60		\$69,865.00
Reg. Dist. Sch. Com (each)	\$1,106.00	\$1,106.00		\$1,106.00

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation:*** *Elected officials are not covered under Article 10 of the PERSONNEL CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN or under union contract. This is the only avenue to adjust elected official salaries to keep pace with inflation and contractual increases to other employees.*

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred Dollars (\$9,900.00) for the PK Valuation software license and Webhosting, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Freetown Board of Assessors

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation:*** *This annual charge is for the software license needed to maintain the Assessment database and access field cards on the Town website.*

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Thirty One Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$31,500.00) to pay the third and final installment of the FY17-FY19 Revaluation Program, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Freetown Board of Assessors

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: Final Installment of the 3 year contract with PKValuations, Inc.***

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) to pay for the public purpose of supporting the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Program of the New Bedford Women's Center, Inc. and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: This article provides for funding shelter, crisis intervention, counseling, medical and legal advocacy and educational programs to the community in relation to the issue of rape, sexual assault, and domestic violence.***

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Six Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$6,550.00) for the purpose of updating a two-year actuarial Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) study, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Treasurer

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: The Governmental Accounting Standard Board (GASB) requires the Town to present financial information for OPEB. The information must be updated every two years.***

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds, the sum of Sixty-five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500.00) for the removal of trees at the Mother's Brook Cemetery, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Cemetery Commission

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: There are a number of large, unhealthy trees along the southern property line. The neighboring condos have begun reporting damage to their property from the trees. The condo owners have requested that the trees be removed before the damage becomes more significant. The Cemetery Commission agrees that the trees pose a hazard and should be removed.***

**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of purchasing a yearly citizen notification system, for the Town residents to opt in to receive telephone or text messages for Town notifications, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: This article would fund the purchase of a town notification system.***

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote in accordance with General Laws Chapter 115, Section 9, to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds, the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the maintenance of veterans' graves, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Cemetery Commission

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: This is an annual article that funds the maintenance of certain veterans' graves in town as provided by M. G. L. Chapter 115, Section 9.***

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of Fifteen Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) from the Sale of Cemetery Lots Account to be used by the Cemetery Commission for improvements to the Assonet Burying Ground. This will include surveying of existing prepared land, marking out of lots, clearing new areas, performing maintenance, and improving roads and access, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Cemetery Commission

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: This is an annual appropriation. According to state law, revenues from lot sales may only be spent for the benefit of the cemetery in which those lots were sold.***

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds, the sum of Thirty-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$32,900.00) to fund the cost of site evaluation, engineering and design services for the design of a Sewer Extension Study for Assonet, including but not limited to schematic design and any costs incidental and related thereto; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any agreements and execute all documents including contracts for terms in excess of three years, necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Article, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen & Water and Sewer Commissioners

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: These funds will be used to hire an Engineering Firm to provide a feasibility study for a Sewer Extension on the Assonet side of Town.***

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift, or eminent domain, for general municipal purposes the parcel of land with improvements thereon located at 15 Bullock Road, Freetown, Massachusetts, and shown on Assessors Map 239 as Parcels 27 & 28; and to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds, the sum of Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$17,500.00) for the purchase of said parcel upon such terms and conditions as determined by the Board of Selectmen to be in the best interest of the Town; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all

agreement and execute all documents necessary to effectuate the purpose of this article; and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: This parcel is adjacent to Fire Station 3 and offers the Town additional land for fire and municipal services.***

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to approve the sum of \$873,206.52 to operate the Water-Sewer Enterprise Fund for FY 2019, with an appropriation for the following direct expenses:

Personnel: \$ 86,611.52

Expenses: \$ 711,450.00

Total: \$ 798,061.52 in the Water-Sewer Enterprise fund

and the sum of \$ 75,145.00 for indirect costs appropriated in the general fund as part of the Omnibus Budget, with all amounts, \$873,206.52 funded with Water-Sewer Enterprise receipts; or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Water and Sewer Commissioners

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: This is the operating budget for the Water-Sewer Enterprise fund presented in accordance with M.G.L. chapter 44, section 53F ½.***

***Total Water-Sewer Enterprise Budget (information purposes only)***

***Direct Expenses:***

<b><i>Salaries</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 86,611.52</i></b>
<b><i>Purchase of Services</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 620,600.00</i></b>
<b><i>Purchase of Supplies</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 19,500.00</i></b>
<b><i>Other Charges</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 1,100.00</i></b>
<b><i>Replacement equipment</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 2,000.00</i></b>
<b><i>Unforeseen Reserve</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 50,000.00</i></b>
<b><i>Debt Service</i></b>	<b><i><u>\$ 18,250.00</u></i></b>
<b><i>Subtotal</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 798,061.52</i></b>

***Indirect Costs (in the general fund):***

<b><i>Finance</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 20,947</i></b>
<b><i>Utilities</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 1,046</i></b>
<b><i>IT service</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 956</i></b>
<b><i>Insurance</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 28,087</i></b>
<b><i>Retirement</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 18,650</i></b>
<b><i>Gen'l Admin</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 5,659</i></b>
<b><i>Less Int Credit</i></b>	<b><i><u>\$ - 200</u></i></b>
<b><i>Subtotal</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 75,145</i></b>

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way the roadway known as **Marie's Way**, as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen and shown on a plan entitled "As-Built & Acceptance Plan Marie's Way", dated April 15, 2004, prepared by Ribelin Land Surveyors, Inc. (2 sheets), and a plan entitled "Holly Ridge A Residential Subdivision in Freetown, Massachusetts Developed by Unitron Development", dated October 2, 2017, prepared by Borderland Engineering, Inc." (7 sheets), copies of which are on file with the Town Clerk, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain, the fee or lesser interests in said roadway and any drainage, utility, access and other easements related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires 2/3 vote

***Explanation: This Article will allow Marie's Way to be accepted as a Town roadway.***

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way the roadway known **Mark's Lane**, as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen and shown on a plan entitled "As-Built & Acceptance Plan Mark's Lane", dated April 15, 2004, prepared by Ribelin Land Surveyors, Inc. (2 sheets), a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain, the fee or lesser interests in said roadway and any drainage, utility, access and other easements related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires 2/3 vote

***Explanation: This Article will allow Mark's Lane to be accepted as a Town roadway.***

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way the roadway known **John Phillip Drive**, as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen and shown on a plan entitled "As-Built & Acceptance Plan John Phillip Drive", dated April 15, 2004, prepared by Ribelin Land Surveyors, Inc. (2 sheets), a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain, the fee or lesser interests in said roadway and any drainage, utility, access and other easements related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires 2/3 vote

***Explanation: This Article will allow John Phillip Drive to be accepted as a Town roadway.***

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to accept as public ways the roadways known **Christopher Drive and Brewster Drive**, as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen and shown on a plan of land entitled "Holly Ridge A Residential Subdivision in Freetown, Massachusetts Developed by Unitron Development", dated October 2, 2017, prepared by Borderland Engineering, Inc." (7 sheets), a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain, the fee or lesser interests in said roadways and any drainage, utility, access and other easements related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Explanation: This Article will allow Christopher Driver and Brewster Drive to be accepted as Town roadways.***

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires Majority Vote

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a tax exempt lease purchase (TELP) financing agreement with Ford Motor Credit Company LLC to acquire equipment (specifically police cruisers) that may be financed by the issuance of debt under this chapter or otherwise authorized by law, for a term up to the useful life of the property (specifically 3 years) to be procured as determined by the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 21C, and furthermore the sum needed to satisfy the first year

payment of this agreement will be separately identified, raised and appropriated in the capital budget section of the Omnibus Budget for FY19, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Chief of Police

Requires 2/3 Vote

*Explanation: This article is necessary for the continuation of the cruiser lease program established in 2004 by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee.*

*M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 21C establishes the procedure governing the use of TELP financing agreements. This article complies with this statute allowing departments through the Board of Selectmen to enter into financing agreements for capital assets. The departments that use TELP agreements are reported in the capital budget section of the Omnibus Budget, along with the appropriation needed to satisfy the agreement. Any TELP agreement under this section shall be considered a binding obligation for the Town as if it were a debt authorization under this chapter agreement, provided an appropriation available for the purpose has been made in the fiscal year in which the lease becomes effective.*

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a tax exempt lease purchase (TELP) financing agreement with All American Investment Group, LLC to acquire a fire apparatus that may be financed by the issuance of debt under this chapter or otherwise authorized by law, for a term up to the useful life of the property (specifically 5 years) to be procured as determined by the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 21C, and furthermore the sum needed to satisfy the first year payment of this agreement will be separately identified, raised and appropriated in the capital budget section of the Omnibus Budget for FY19, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Fire Chief

Requires 2/3 Vote

*Explanation: This article is necessary for the purchase of the Fire Apparatus.*

*M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 21C establishes the procedure governing the use of TELP financing agreements. This article complies with this statute allowing departments through the Board of Selectmen to enter into financing agreements for capital assets. The departments that use TELP agreements are reported in the capital budget section of the Omnibus Budget, along with the appropriation needed to satisfy the agreement. Any TELP agreement under this section shall be considered a binding obligation for the Town as if it were a debt authorization under this chapter agreement, provided an appropriation available for the purpose has been made in the fiscal year in which the lease becomes effective.*

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of Section 8L of Chapter 40 of the General Laws and establish an Agricultural Commission consisting of five members to advocate for farmers, farm businesses, and farm interests; to assist farmers in resolving municipal problems or conflicts related to farms; and for other related purposes outlined in the statute; members of said Commission to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, to serve at the pleasure of the Selectmen, three (3) of whom shall own farms or be employed in an agriculture-related field, or, if farmers or persons employed in agriculture are not available to serve on the commission, shall have knowledge and experience in agricultural practices or knowledge of related agricultural business and two (2) of whom shall be residents interested in promoting farming; each member of said Commission to serve for a term of three (3) years; provided,

however, that the initial members appointed to the Commission shall serve for terms of one (1), two (2) or three (3) years with the terms to be arranged by the Board of Selectmen so that the terms of approximately one-third (1/3) of the Commission's members shall expire each year, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Conservation Commission and Planning Board

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: This article would establish an Agricultural Commission for the Town to promote, support, and advocate for the farms and farm businesses operating in Freetown, and also to educate the public on farms, farm practices, and other related matters. The statute allows for a commission of between three and seven members, so the members could be increased or decreased as interest warrants.***

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Freetown General By-laws, **Article 24, Miscellaneous Controls & Regulations, Section 24.2, Substances Pumped on Street**, by deleting the last sentence, "Penalties presently provided by Article 18, § 18.14 will apply to this section." and adding "Penalties presently provided by Article 25, §25.2 will apply to this section.", and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Health Agent

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: This article would correct the numbering error for the penalties.***

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Freetown General By-laws by rescinding Article 30, Number of Recreational Marijuana Establishments, in its entirety, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Planning Board

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: Since the Town banned recreational marijuana establishments by bylaw and ballot vote, this bylaw is no longer necessary or consistent.***

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Freetown Protective By-laws by rescinding Article 11, Section 11.34, Number of Recreational Marijuana Establishments, in its entirety, and/or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Planning Board

Requires 2/3 Vote

***Explanation: Since the Town banned recreational marijuana establishments by bylaw and ballot vote, this bylaw is no longer necessary or consistent.***

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, and control of the parcel of land located at 49 Howland Road and known as the Freetown Transfer Station, as shown on Assessor's Map 210 as Parcel 13, from the board or officer currently having care, custody, and control thereof for its current purposes to such board or officer for such purposes and to the Board of Selectmen for the purposes of leasing and granting easements on, over or under such parcel for the installation of renewable energy facilities; and to authorize the Board of



Selectmen to (i) lease, through one or more lease agreements, all or a portion of said parcel of land for the installation of one or more renewable energy facilities for terms of up to 25 years, as determined by the Board of Selectmen; (ii) grant such easements on, over and/or under such parcel of land as necessary or convenient to serve the facilities; and (iii) take any actions and execute any other documents or ancillary agreements necessary, convenient, or appropriate to accomplish the foregoing and to implement and administer the lease agreements and easements, all of which agreements, easements and documents shall be on such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interests of the Town; and/or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires 2/3 Vote

***Explanation: This article will allow for the Town to issue a Request for Proposals for leasing for a Solar Field project at the Transfer Station.***

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the purpose of supplementing the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen

Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: This appropriation would add funds to the Capital Stabilization Fund to be used for purchasing capital assets or payment of related debt service on capital assets. Any proposed use of the fund would require a 2/3 vote of town meeting.***

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the purpose of supplementing the Stabilization Fund, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: the Board of Selectmen


Requires Majority Vote

***Explanation: This appropriation would add funds to the Stabilization Fund to be used for any lawful purpose. The Stabilization Fund is a "rainy day fund" or reserve to support the Town during times of financial stress. Any proposed use of the fund would require a 2/3 vote of Town Meeting.***


And you are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the following places: Assonet Post Office, East Freetown Post Office, the stores of Quick Pic in East Freetown, Junior's Convenience Store and Freetown Town Hall, and the Freetown Communications Center.

Hereof, fail not and make return of the original Warrant with your doings thereon immediately after making service thereof to the Town Clerk of the Town of Freetown, Massachusetts.

Given under our hands and seal of the Town of Freetown, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, Anno Domini, Two Thousand Eighteen.



Robert P. Jose  
Chairman



Charles B. Sullivan



Lisa A. Pacheco

**FREETOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**